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the author, who is chief of the division of trade schools of the New York state educational department, presents a plan for the sort of instruction the state should provide. General cultural education having failed, both to keep the child in school and to teach him how to earn a living, there should be provided, after the sixth year, vocational training in simple trades for the boys and girls who go into the factories, and after that, two years of instruction in skilled trades for those who desire it. After reviewing the merits and demerits of the apprenticeship system the author concludes that this instruction must usually be given in state-supported trade schools.

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*The Nation as a Business Firm.* By W. H. MALLOCK. London: A. & C. Black, 1910. 8vo, pp. xi+261. \$1.00 net.

This book aims to rectify, by means of a statistical study, some of the errors made by those who have investigated the distribution of income in England, and is directed especially against Marx. The general proposition is to prove the betterment of conditions of the middle and lower classes by "constant enrichment of the poor" in a century of capitalism, and it is prophesied that in the near future the poor will divide among themselves the entire national income. Were there such a distributive problem as Marx or Henry George suggests, the confiscation of unearned income could not solve it. So-called unearned income is less than one-sixth of the total national income. The greatest part of English land value represents capital investments. True rent is probably one-ninetieth of the national income, and, of this, fifteen-sixteenths is earned, in that it represents capital investments to those who at present own it. It is pointed out that profits in England amount to only one-quarter of the wages, which rate reverses the socialist estimate. Distribution of capital is no index to the distribution of income and wealth.

Granted the conclusions of the book, the question of the "submerged tenth" and the unemployed arises. Is not this the vital factor in present social consciousness? Mr. Mallock claims that general progress has been obscured by this excluded residuum. But these extremes are not causally connected with distribution of wealth, and the solution of this marginal problem does not lie in utopian or revolutionary measures.

Certain parts of the book previously published have been criticized by various statisticians. Most important is Mr. Bowley's challenge that the estimates are mere guesses. Mr. Mallock claims that these "guesses" are limited by a number of known facts and the necessity of harmonizing them with one another, and they are therefore a rough approximation to the truth. The reader, however, frequently feels that Mr. Mallock's estimates carry none too much assurance of even approximate value, and the building up of conclusions on the basis of a series of such estimates is none too convincing. The general outline of the book is clear, and a topical presentation makes lucid an exposition of what would otherwise be a mass of confusing statistics.